

The International Society of Ethnology and Folklore (SIEF) Working Group
'Space-lore and Place-lore' announces a *Call for Proposals* for the conference:

Spaces and Places in Transition

Urban and Rural Transformations in Central and Eastern Europe



7-10 November 2018

Prague

In the decades following the collapse of the Soviet Union, countries in Central and Eastern Europe have confronted a period of transformation processes that rapidly altered earlier structures of space and society, leaving their mark throughout urban wilderness, brownfields, border landscapes, and former military zones on the one hand, and suburbanisation, gentrification of cities, and industrialisation of agriculture on the other. By exploring the unique contexts and reactions to the preservation, removal, and transformation of spaces impacted by such processes, we can learn much about the ways in which contested histories and futures are mediated through built and natural environments, and the emotions that they inspire.

We invite contributions that explore the changing roles of rural and urban cultural heritages in rapidly transforming social and political settings, with a particular focus on Central and Eastern Europe. Additionally, we encourage submissions that address how different perspectives on heritage inform the representation and reinterpretation of spaces in public discourse in order to construct new cultural landscapes.

Proposed Themes

We invite scholars to share research on the following or closely related themes:

- the construction and transformation of rural/urban identities
- representing, erasing, and reinterpreting the past in the built environment (new and old places of memory, contested heritages, monuments and memorials, commemorative space-bound practices)
- narratives of the past/future in the construction of new cultural landscapes
- preservation and transformation of urban and rural areas, gentrification, and suburbanisation in post-socialist Europe
- political narratives of space and place (including re/definitions of public spaces) and place-based activism and struggles
- old and newly emerging free-time activities, and their impact on landscape/urban environment
- landscape protection (new protected landscapes or urban zones)
- re-inventing tradition (re-introduction of traditional production, landscape maintenance, or urban and rural festivities)
- novel theoretical approaches to spatial developments post-1989, with emphasis on theoretical conceptualisations emerging from the CEE region (transition vs. transformation, de/colonisation, etc.)

Submission Guidelines

The conference invites both paper and panel submissions. The length of oral presentations of papers is expected to be 20 minutes, followed by 10 minutes of discussion. Guidelines for each are as follows:

Papers

1. A 400-word abstract of the proposed paper.
2. A brief bio of the author(s).

Panels

1. A 400-word abstract of the panel, consisting of maximum four papers.
2. A 150-word abstract for each of the papers on the panel, followed by a brief description of each panelist.
3. A 75-word description of the panel for the conference program.

Submission Dates

<i>Deadline for submission</i>	30 April 2018
<i>Notification of acceptance</i>	31 May 2018
<i>Deadline for registration</i>	31 August 2018

Please use the conference website for submission of paper and panel proposals. The conference website can be found here: www.spaces2018.cz

Registration

There is no registration fee, but advanced registration is required due to space limitations at the venue. ***To be included in the conference program and receive materials at registration, please register via the conference website by 31 August 2018.***

Conference Venue

Vila Lanna, V Sadech 1, 160 00 Prague, Czech Republic

Conference Details

In addition to presentations and panels (Wed. to Fri., 7-9 November 2018), the conference will also feature:

- An excursion to one or more sites related to the conference theme (Sat., 10 November 2018)
- Guest speakers
- Lunch and refreshments at the venue (free for registered participants)
- Conference dinner at the venue (Wed., 7 November 2018; free for registered participants)

Questions?

For general inquiries, please contact the organising committee at: info@spaces2018.cz

Organising Partners

